

REMARKS

Claims 16 and 19-26 are presented for consideration, with Claim 16 being independent.

A minor amendment to Claim 16 has been made.

The amendments to Claim 16 were not presented earlier as it was believed that the previously presented claims would be found allowable. This Amendment does not add any additional claims. Moreover, the Examiner's familiarity with the subject matter of the present application will allow an appreciation of the significance of the amendments herein without undue expenditure of time and effort. Finally, the Amendment does not raise new issues requiring further consideration or search. Accordingly, it is submitted that entry of the Amendment is appropriate.

Claims 16, 19-21, 23 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Endo (WO '647) in view of Ikeda '385. Claim 22 is rejected as allegedly being unpatentable over Endo and Ikeda as applied to Claim 16, and further in view of Lindsay '497 and Swidler '833. Claims 24 and 26 are rejected as allegedly being unpatentable over Endo and Ikeda as applied to Claim 16, and further in view of Comiskey '519. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 16 of Applicant's invention relates to an electrophoretic display device comprised of a substrate, a sealing plate, and a partition wall disposed between the substrate and the sealing plate. A liquid layer is disposed in a container including the substrate and the partition wall and includes electrophoretic particles and a dispersion medium. In addition, a first electrode is formed at a position apart from the partition wall on the substrate, and a second electrode is

formed along the partition wall. A resistance layer electrically connects the first electrode and the second electrode and is formed of an indium-tin-oxide film.

In accordance with Applicant's invention, a high performance electrophoretic display device can be provided.

The primary citation to Endo relates to an electrophoretic display device having first and second substrates 1, 2, separated by a partition wall 7, and containing therein an insulating liquid 5 with charged electrophoretic particles 6 (see Figures 1A and 1B). The display includes a first electrode 3 in the first substrate, and a second electrode 4 disposed as part of the partition wall.

The Office Action acknowledges that Endo fails to teach a resistance layer electrically connecting the first electrode and the second electrode and comprising an indium-tin-oxide film. It is respectfully submitted, however, that Ikeda fails to compensate for this deficiency in Endo, as asserted in the Office Action.

Ikeda relates to an electrophoretic display device that includes, with reference to Figure 1, a first substrate 1a, a second substrate 1b, and a stage 4. As illustrated, the stage has a recessed part E, with a first electrode 5a arranged below the recessed part, and a second electrode 5b arranged on an upper part of the stage. Ikeda additionally provides a third electrode 5c on a side wall F₃ of the stage and a fourth electrode 5d on an upper surface F₂ of the stage. An insulating layer 9 can be formed between electrode 5d and 5b, as shown in Figures 5 and 6.

The Office Action asserts, on page 5, that the fourth electrode 5d and the insulating material 9 form a resistance layer electrically connecting the first electrode 5a and the second electrode 5b. It is respectfully submitted, however, the insulating layer 9 is formed between electrodes 5d and 5b in order to avoid a short circuit therebetween (see column 6, lines 42-47)

but does not electrically connect the first electrode 5a and the second electrode 5b. In fact, in Ikeda, the first, third and fourth electrodes are electrically connected but the first and second electrodes are not. It is submitted, therefore, that the proposed combination of Endo and Ikeda, even if proper, still fails to teach or suggest Applicant's invention as set forth in independent Claim 16. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the Claims 16, 19-21, 23 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103 is respectfully requested.

The patents to Lindsay and Swidler are relied on for providing a resistance value of a resistance layer.

The Comiskey patent relates to an electrophoretic display and is relied on for its teaching of an embossed light reflection layer.

These tertiary citations fail, however, to compensate for the deficiencies in Endo and Ikeda as discussed above. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the remaining rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 are respectfully requested.

Thus, it is submitted that Applicant's invention as set forth in independent Claim 16 is patentable over the cited art. In addition, dependent Claims 19-26 set forth additional features of Applicant's invention. Independent consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW

Applicant respectfully requests an interview in the subject application. Applicant's undersigned representative will contact the Examiner within one week's time for the purpose of scheduling the interview.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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